American Farmer,

AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

"O Fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint
"Agricolas." . . . . *Virg.*

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THE AMERICAN FARMER.

EDITED BY JOHN S. SKINNER.

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Maryland Horses and Politicians—*Causes of degeneracy in certain respects, the same, with both.*—In England, during the past season, as we see in that now much approved and very elegant work, the American Turf Register and Sporting Magazine, there were eight Stallions covering at $125 and upwards—Emilius at $250, Touchstone $150, Bay Middleton $150, Plenipo $125, Physician $150, Camel $125, Langar $125, and Velocipede $125—Of these eight, Bay Middleton, Plenipo and Touchstone stood on their blood and performances—being, as Stallions, untried; and stood as high as any tried Stallions in the kingdom, except Emilius, and higher than any tried ones, except five. Priam, though an untried Stallion, covered in England at 150. No people on earth understand so well the principles of breeding and the art of grooming horses as the English. In America, especially in the slave-holding states, the business of horse-breeding, except for the turf, (and that is not as well managed as it might be,) is conducted with little either of knowledge or of system. The question most generally put, or if not actually put, yet certainly acted upon, is, not to what Stallion can a mare be *best bred*, having regard to the size, qualities, make and family of each; but to what horse can she be bred with the *least trouble*, and for the *least money!* A stallion, say most farmers, is a stallion, so he be big enough and fat enough; and a colt is a colt; and such reasoners with equal truth might add, "I have a head, and so has a pin." So gross and culpably short-sighted is the general management on this subject, in the region we have designated, that you may place a thorough-bred stallion of the finest model, coming down with undoubted purity of blood from horses of incredible speed and endurance through a long line of ancestry, in the same neighborhood with the vilest brute that ever stood on four legs—thick-shouldered and thick-winded, lop-eared and lop-sided, and cat-ham'd in the bargain, and let the former cover country mares at $20, or even $15, and the latter at a "barrel of corn and twenty-five cents to the groom," and our life for it, the garron carries the day from his well-formed and high-bred rival ten to one! and especially if he has the great advantage of being *one mile nearer!* Hence it is, that so few horses are bred in the State, fit for a gentleman to ride or drive. What a scandalous reproach on the management and common sense of the horse-breeders within the State, that if you want a nag that will go his mile inside of four or even five minutes, or one that will clear, in the chase, a worm fence with the rider off; or a match of horses, with heads up and well set on, good shoulders, clean limbs, sound wind and fine coat, moving evenly and well together, you must go, or wait until some Baltimore livery stable keeper can send, all the way to New Jersey or New York, or Vermont, and for which, especially if you employ one who happens to have the run, for the time, he makes you pay 50 per cent. advance on their cost. For all this there exist several causes, one of which is as disgraceful, as its effects are injurious to the farmers of the south. That one is the almost universal indifference or neglect about paying debts contracted for the services of a stallion. Nothing is more proverbial than the delay and difficulty in collecting such debts, except, perhaps, a like difficulty in realizing the amounts due to the *publishers of papers*.

Men accounted and acting like *gentlemen*, in the ordinary intercourse of society, seem to esteem it but a gentlemanly vice, to break their solemn obligations to the owners of stallions, and proprietors of papers, and by withholding, rob them, of that which is as much their lawful property as is the grain or the bacon his, which is locked up in the farmer's corn or meat-house. This is plain language—unfortunately, it is quite as *true*, as it is plain. Happy should we be to think that none of the readers of the American Farmer may *feel* it to be so. In the wide scope of our duty to the agricultural interest, we are under obligation to speak of whatever may be prejudicial or vicious in the management or habits of the *class*, whose welfare we delight in guarding to the utmost of our feeble abilities—As a class, we are jealous of their honor, and feel bound to warn them to preserve it, with quite as much solicitude as we would teach them how to make one bushel more of *tree corn* or *Rohan potatoes!* Men are not cured of, or saved from mal-practices in their morals or husbandry, by eternal employment of honied phrases; yet we need scarcely observe that we mean no personal application or offence by these remarks.

We may say with the satirist,

"Vice, if it e'er can be abash'd,
"Must be or ridicul'd or lash'd;
"If you resent it, who's to blame?
"He neither knows *you*, nor your *name*.

Stallions of the purest blood and the finest form, such as would in a few years improve the horses of Maryland to an aggregate amount in value beyond belief, if they could get mares and *be paid* for them even at $15 or $20, are banished from the State to give place to the vilest scrubs in existence, just as "when impious men bear sway, the post of honor is the private station," and those of talents and virtue are driven from the the public service to give place to grand little and *little grand* ones. The misfortune is, that the practice of low vulgar electioneering seems to have extended itself to every thing from the office of law-making down to the office of stallion keeping. And those who seek either successfully, must have recourse to the same electioneering tricks and expedients—neither waits to be sought for. Both must go begging from farm to farm, and from door to door, each securing popularity and patronage in proportion as he debases and cheapens himself—

"Each rather than they should excel,
"Would see his rivals all in hell."

Hence have we lived in our day to see legislation become a *mere trade;* occasionally united, in the same person, with that of black-leg and cheat; and though sometimes he lose the former by the turn of the *political* cards, he can still shuffle and cut for the benefit of his quondam associates. The Lord defend the people, say we, alike from your *cheap* politician and your *cheap* stallion; the latter begetting a race of scrubs—the former being a scrub *per se!* As the Parson, when he has nothing more to say, so we repeat the text: "the causes of degeneracy are in certain respects the same in both."

TO THE FARMERS OF MARYLAND.

Do you know how much you pay for your Laws?

You are generally aware that, as a body of men, you have been compared to a flock of sheep; ready to follow any bell-weather. But this is not all, and were it all, would not be so bad; for the bell-weather is generally a sensible and honest sheep, and, if let alone, will not lead the flock into muddy places, or over dangerous precipices—but the bell-weathers that you follow, are many of them controuled and governed by cunning shepherds, who flatter and coax *them* that through them, they may *fleece you*.

Duped in many things, there is perhaps nothing in which you are more shamefully imposed upon, than in the *cost of your government*—Let me endeavor to make myself understood, without going into an abstract disquisition on the "social compact."

It will be admitted, that if all were actuated by the principles of abstract right and justice; the strong respecting the rights of the weak, and the cunning forbearing to take advantage of the honest and confiding; there would be no necessity for the expensive machinery of government. Our jail doors might be thrown open, chains melted up, and gibbets pulled down. Government and laws, with all their host of pampered officers to be paid and fed; and pains and penalties to be inflicted, are the lamentable fruits of necessity, arising from that inherent principle of rapacity, which pervades all animated nature,—men no less than beasts; and which prompts all, from the king to the beggar—from the hawk to the sparrow, to forget right, when they have the *might* to do it with impunity. It is idle to talk of men being governed by an innate moral sense. The only innate and universal sense is, to seek pleasure and avoid pain. Upon the existence of that principle men must act and must be governed—Any other theory incompatible with it, is but a metaphysical chimera; one which may dupe the fool, while it serves the knave.—With the people of Maryland, the owners and the tillers of the soil, the true question which they have to entertain is this—Since government is a thing of necessity, and must be paid for, by *the governed*, the inquiry with us is, how *little* of it shall we have; and at how little (not how much) expense can we carry it on?

The most expensive parts of the machinery are the legislative and the judiciary branches.

Does any one, do the farmers especially, investigate carefully, with a view to ascertain, whether these two indispensible evils might not be supported at far less expense to the landed (the paying) interest than it is now done? or, instead of these inquiries, which concern the personal interests, rights and pecuniary welfare of every man in the State, do not the people, the farmers and planters, give themselves up like sheep to be sheared by political aspirants and demagogues?—When you look at the narrow and selfish aims of some of the *leaders*, (heaven save the mark!) of your Legislature, and reflect that by raising their *per diem*, you have made it an object of *pecuniary profit* with a great number to get there, what man in his senses can wonder at the *increased and increasing length of each session?* Who can feel surprise, however much he may be disgusted, with the countless number of frivolous motions and resolutions of inquiry into matters that might now as well be numbered with things beyond the flood—old abuses too stale to be examined with interest or profit, or too rotten to admit of cure.

To judge of the wisdom and the dignity of your delegates you ought to watch their proceedings—What do you suppose was the first object that engaged their anxious deliberations? Not only by day, but, as some other things do, *by night also?* Was it, do you suppose, to devise some effectual means of arresting the pestilential malaria that is diffused throughout the state, from the number of vile establishments, in every neighborhood, for *retailing spirituous liquors and receiving stolen goods?* Was it among their first cares, to echo back with faithful sympathy, and resolute approval, the pa-

triotic remonstrances of Virginia and Georgia, and South Carolina, against the countenance and protection given to the kidnappers of New-York and Maine by the Whig Governor of the one, and the Van Buren governor of the other? States and statesmen antagonistical in every point of national policy, and agreeing in nothing, but in offering impunity to felons who are striking at the vitals of the slave-holding states!—Was it think you the first measure of your delegates to put an end to the numerous evils resulting from the mixture of free and slave negroes, and to the causes, whatever they be, under the influence of which, free negro (not slave) labor is superseding free white labour, until scarcely a decent white man can be found as manager or labourer on a farm? Was it, think you, among their first labours, to provide for an exact and thorough agricultural survey of every county,—a survey that would develope resources not excelled, if equalled, by any territory of equal extent in the union,—one which would not fail to attract for Maryland the regards of the capitalists of Europe, arresting and absorbing in her own bosom, a great portion of that vast current of population and wealth, which now passes through our state to western prairies beyond the mountains? Believe me, no! on none of these subjects did your delegates trouble themselves on their arrival at Annapolis. The first labour was to erect a guillotine—and then to go about snuffing out for victims.

"Fee, faw, fum," said they, "I smell the blood of a heretic man—Be him dead or be him alive, I will have some"! and straightway they seized upon and executed poor Jack Quin, their humble *door-keeper*—he who had faithfully brought their papers, and kept their coats and hats, and made their fires, for years and years. In vain did he plead the rigours of the season, and the wants of his family—in vain did he refer them to the votes and proceedings of a time not long gone by, to show how men had shifted sides and rubbed out old marks, leaving no certain standard of faith—that all principle had been merged in gross eagerness for the spoils and base man-worship—in vain did he urge the orthodoxy of his sons! As to *doxy*, said they, we will not kill you without benefit of clergy; and in special grace for past services, one of them repeated a sermon delivered by an eminent Quaker preacher, Dr. Fothergill, with whom, unlike modern lawgivers, brevity was the soul of wit—A great crowd gathered together to hear the Spirit move the Friend, and after some thirty minutes meditation, he slowly rose and said, "My friends and hearers, I have been thinking of one word—and that is a word of three syllables—it is *orthodox*;" and down he sat—After a long pause he rose again, and said, "and my friends and hearers, I have been thinking of another word, and that word is a definition of the first—and it also has three syllables, and that word is *uppermost!*" *Now*, said Quin's executioners, we are uppermost—your doxy is *hetero*-doxy—our doxy is alone the *true* doxy, and they let slip the axe on the neck of a poor faithful and subordinate *door-keeper*, for exercising in the most quiet and inoffensive manner, that right which is boasted of as the peculiar freedom of our Republican government.

"Alas, poor Yorick," one would have thought, his very "jokes and jibes," if not the obscurity of his post would have saved him. But, shame where is thy blush! what victim so humble as to elude the vengeance of partizans, inflated with triumph! What crumb so small as to escape the mocroscopic vision of politicians professedly fighting for the "spoils"? We speak not of one party only. The vice of cupidity and the spirit of retaliation have made all alike—The great question, before each election, is, who shall get the keys and the distribution of the public treasure, and the last after an election, is, where shall we find the most faithful and capable, and how shall we best promote the true interests of the whole people and the glory of our common country. And alas! for the evils we honestly deprecate, there is no remedy, there will be no cure until the the *Farmers—the people themselves*, for whom we strongly feel, and feebly write; will *think for themselves*—study the true ends of government—select for their law-givers men of talents and honour; not gamblers with the political or *any other dice box;* but men who will study to lay deep the foundation of the State's welfare, by economising the public expenditures and rectifying the public morals.

Is the reader aware that every day's session of the Legislature costs the people, the Planters and Farmers, about $600! When he notes that, let him note the time that is wasted by some members in setting popularity traps; and by conceited aspirants for Executive favour in making puerile speeches. The simplest question of divorce or inquiry opens the floodgates of their eloquence, and oh! how it "rushes," "rushes," "rushes"!

"Labitur et labetur, in omne volubilis ævrem."

On a plain question to submit an inquiry to a public officer for information, you will see some half dozen, pregnant with their own conceits, rise to make amendments and speeches—

"And 'tis remarkable that they
Talk most, who have the least to say.
Your flippant speakers have the curse
To plead bad causes, down to the worse
As dames, who native beauty want
Still uglier look, the more they paint."

For the evil of too much and too costly legislation, the landed interest has one remedy, but before they can apply that, they must learn to give preference to the public, over *party* and factious concerns, and to act on the principle that they are the rulers, and not the ruled—the payers, and not the payees—They should insist on the passage of a law to limit the session to, at most, fifty or sixty days. If that cannot be accomplished in one way, it may in another—Let the *per diem* of the members, after fifty days session, be reduced to *two dollars per day*. Were that the case, we should see them as busy at the end of forty, as they are now at the end of ninety days—The very drones of the hives would become working bees—Does not every body know that memorials and petitions are now delayed because it is known that while they are laying up $2 a day, and basking before good hickory fires, and feasted with *Swans*, and good hams, and fat hen-turkies, they will be in no hurry to get home until corn planting? In Tennessee, if not in some other states, the Legislature meets once in two years; and has any one heard of any inconvenience resulting from it? Here already, this 20th January, the people have been saddled with an expense of more than $12,000, while *retrenchment, retrenchment, retrenchment*, is the stereotype cry! You generally find the cuckoo clamor for economy, economy, repeated the oftenest and the loudest by those who are ever raising committees, and starting expensive investigations, sometimes in the latent hope of inculpating more eminent men, hated for their very superiority—Your small fry, good reader, you'll observe are ever prone to wound the peace of those whose excellence they can never reach, as mischievous birds and pestiferous insects attack our choicest fruits. Would such men but think aloud, how often they would be overheard to say,

"I have no title to aspire;
"Yet, when you sink, I seem the higher."

We have no time to pursue the subject—In our view, one of the burdens which bears heavily on the great interest we so feebly represent, is the *heavy tax paid for its legislation*. We have indicated a remedy which we believe to be within the reach of the farmer and planter, if he will compel the schemes and the cupidity of *party*, to give way to the public welfare. In studying to advance this, we own no party allegiance, and disclaim all personal allusions—*qui capit ille facit*. The farmer goes for the *landed interest*.

☞TO RECENT SUBSCRIBERS—We have received, recently, a number of orders for the "American Farmer," without designating whether the numbers from the commencement of the volume were required—Those received since the 1st of January, have mostly been supplied with the same from that date—but as it is presumed that subscribers generally will desire to preserve and bind the work, those wishing the back numbers can be supplied by addressing us a line to that effect through the postmaster nearest them.

We take this occasion to tender our thanks to those friends who have taken an interest in the extension of our list, especially in Virginia, the Carolinas, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana, (from the latter of which we yesterday received a very handsome list, with the "needful" accompanying the same, and the promise of additions thereto)—and would remind some of our friends nearer home of proffered assistance, which we hope will not be lost sight of.

For the American Farmer.

On Planting Trees in Streets.

I have heard frequent complaints of ornamental trees dying that have been planted in the city of Baltimore, which are alike discouraging to purchasers and Nurserymen, who have, at great expense, for years been raising them.

Reflection on this subject has induced me to make some remarks on the causes of failure, and how to make trees grow and form handsome heads. The principal objects in planting are to ornament the city, fronts of houses, and to furnish shade. These desirable objects will seldom be fully accomplished whilst the planting is consigned to inexperienced hands, who have no other interest but their per diem, and who frequently force the roots into holes scarcely large enough to receive them, and often into an impervious mixture of brick, clay and gravel, where the virgin soil has been removed by digging down the streets to their present grade; but where the street has been raised by grading it, the trees will mostly grow when planted there, without extraordinary attention. A tree properly planted and taken care of for about two years, will seldom require much attention afterwards, and may remain a monument of the planter's care for half a century or more. It is therefore of sufficient importance to any person who intends to plant trees, to see that it is done in a right manner. However disposed Nurserymen may feel towards their customers to plant trees obtained of them, yet during the season of digging them, it would be very inconvenient to go or send to plant two or three trees only, at a time, when their personal attention is constantly required to orders generally at home. Where the ground consists of gravel and clay, the pavement must be removed, and a hole dug about eighteen inches deep, and large enough to hold a large cart-load of rich mould or virgin soil, to each tree—In the centre of this, plant the tree, about the same depth it stood in the nursery, exclusive of pavement, spreading the roots equally around, and as the best and finest mould is filling in on the roots of the tree, move it up and down a little, to shake the mould into vacancies between the roots; when the hole is rather more than half-filled, throw in a bucket of water to settle the earth around and moisten the roots, which frequently become dry. Persons who plant that beautiful tree called Chinese Alianthus, or Tree of Avon, when the buds have swelled in the spring, so as to be able to distinguish which will be the strongest and best suited for a leader, should cut the top off down within half an inch of said bud, which, if thought high enough above the box, say two feet, leave three buds nearest the top to form the head, and rub the other buds off; but if not high enough, leave but one bud, and when it arrives at proper height, top it to three good buds, and rub those below them off. If this can be done before mid-summer, a head will soon form; otherwise, it must be deferred until spring, and as these branches extend, should be shortened anuually, so as to give them equal projection on all sides; and while the tree remains in the nursery, I suppress all side branches until they arrive at a proper height to form the head.

The different varieties of the Maple and Poplar trees, when transplanted, require their branches to be so much shortened as to render them rather homely, and on that account I send them to order as they grow in the nursery, unless requested to shorten them, which would add thriftiness to the tree after losing part of its roots, and occasion a more uniform and beautiful head, especially if regulated by trimming one or two springs after planting.

The Linden and Elm, and all the beautiful family of evergreen trees, require but little of this regulating attention to form handsome heads, a beauty natural to them. Of these last we do not plant enough. They would protect from the winter's cold blast, and ornament country residences if properly disposed of, exclude the view into the kitchen or poultry yard, and other unsightly objects, and enliven the scene at that gloomy season, when common green objects are dead; and a few judiciously planted in city yards, would have a good effect. Our favorite, the Elm tree, has been preserved from the depredation of the bug and worm, by syringing them with tobacco juice a few times during the summer.

Our tree boxes, in my opinion, are made more for beauty than utility—they ought to be made so as to admit more light and air, and cramp the roots less—A box ought to be wide at the bottom and narrow at the top, consisting of two diminished boards only, with four inch wide strips let into their edges, so as to make a box about 12 inches square at the bottom, and 8 at the top, said strips to be placed about 6 or 8 inches apart, and the bottom one six inches above the pavement. When the box is planted in this way, the roots of the tree are only partially confined within two boards instead of four, and the box being light at top, it need not be sunk so deep in the ground as to wound the roots, and I suppose may be made for half the price paid for boxes in common use. ☞See the boxes in general use in New-York.

Robert Sinclair, Sr. *near Baltimore.*

On the cultivation of Beets.

The value and importance of the Sugar Beet as an addition to the agricultural productions of the farm, and an increase to the resources of the nation is but commencing to develop itself. Wherever it has been tried, as food for cattle, it has given satisfaction.

So late as the year 1836, the Sugar Beet was first introduced into the United States, by a society in Philadelphia, whose object was to ascertain its value as a source from which sugar could be advantageously procured; and in pursuance of this object, that society sent an agent to Europe to observe and report the success that had attended the efforts of the French chemists and manufactnrers; this led to the introduction of the seed. It is not the purpose of this paper to enter upon the sugar business; it is sufficient to observe that it has been so very successful in France, that it threatened to supersede the use of foreign sugar, and those merchants who were engaged in its importation, and interested in the sugar colonies, foreseeing the loss of what was their must important branch of business, applied to the French government for protection, and the consequence has been, that sugar made from beets in France has been subjected to an excise duty. It is possible, that the French government was apprehensive that the profits arising from making sugar from beets, might induce an undue proportion of land to be withdrawn from the production of grain, and employed in raising beets; and likewise the fear of lessening the commercial marine, influenced the imposing of this excise duty, and it gave to the mercantile and colonial interests, the protection they petitioned for.

The society referred to, had no intention of becoming a manufacturing one; the object being simply to ascertain and publish all the facts that could be procured relating to this new process of making sugar, import and disseminate some of the seeds, and the information that had been procured; when these objects were accomplished, the members paid the expenses and closed the concern. Up to this time there has been no manufactory for making Beet Sugar established in the United States.—Several trials have been made on an experimental scale;—the result of these, went to confirm the practicability of what was stated to have been done in Europe, to wit: the crystallizing the saccharine matter of the beet.

The discoveries in modern chemistry, having shown, that saccharine or the element of sweetness, is the basis of sugar, wine, vinegar, honey, &c. and as this element exists in beets and in grapes, it has led to the presumption, that wine may be made from beets,as well as from grapes; and in a letter from Paris, of date so late as October 16th, we find an intelligent gentleman, and a friend to the United States, writes to the following effect:

"By-the-bye, you must know that our public papers have been of late full of another discovery, and that is beet wine. What do you think of that my friend? Sugar being the principle, without which no vinous, fermented or distilled alcoholic liquor can be made, and the beet containing more saccharine matter than even the grape, why should the sweet beet not be used to make wine, if it can be divested of its empyreumatic oil and flavour, as it is in making sugar? The beet wine fever is now raging in France, as the morus multicaulis rages in the United States. Of its success in this grape-growing, wine-making country, I shall, as it develops, keep you advised."

The cultivation of this plant being new and interesting to the farmers of the United States, it may be useful to lay before them a few observations on the subject, for which we are mainly indebted to the gentleman to whom we have already referred; and what is said must be received as general principles; the practice that will suit in Maine will not answer in Georgia, and yet the beet is a plant that will thrive throughout the whole extent of the United States; and as a food for cattle will prove for this country all that the turnip is for the moist and humid climate of Great Britain.

Cultivation of Beet.—The beet is a biennial plant, growing to seed the second year, its seed-stalk rises to the height of from three to five feet. It is from the root, and in the first year of its growth that the sugar is extracted. As yet the process of extracting sugar from beets has not been made sufficiently perfect to obtain the whole saccharine matter as in the case of the sugar cane, therefore the residue forms excellent food for cattle.

Choice of Ground.—Beet thrives in the soil suited to the potato, to wit: in all soils that are somewhat sandy and loamy—these soils mixed with vegetable mould and decayed matter are particularly suitable. From land essentially sandy, much cannot be expected, unless it be highly manured; under these circumstances we have seen a good crop growing in New Jersey. In the absence of manure the roots will be small; but where they grow fresh and healthy, it has been found that small plants yield a large proportion of sugar—but this by no means makes up for the want of mass, and therefore with this as with other crops —it is proper to use land naturally or artificially good, to insure large returns. Clay may be added to sandy soil, and sand mixed with clay ground, to correct their defects, but the process is expensive.

Where land is essentially stiff clay, it is not suitable for beets, because the seed germinates badly, and the root finding it difficult to penetrate and imbed itself, becomes forked and rises too much above the surface, whereby it is too much exposed to the sun and atmosphere, which dispose it to become hard and reedy. One of the evils attending forked roots is, that stones, gravel, and earth get enveloped in the interstices, and thus blunt and injure the machine that is employed to reduce the roots to pulp, when the object is to make sugar. Clay soil are improved by deep and frequent ploughing and harrowing; the manures best suited to this kind of ground, are half rotted straw, fresh stable dung, leaves, &c. and sand can be employed to advantage, where it can be had with little labour, the quantity required to produce useful effects has to be very considerable. In France calcareous soils are not considered suited for growing beets. In America we may mistake what the French refer to, when on this occasion they use the term "calcareous;" possibly it may be by them applied to chalk soil, a kind of land we have none of, and not refer to the limestone land that abounds here, and is justly held in high estimation, as it answers well for all crops. The farmers of America must not be deterred from trying to cultivate beets on limestone land, because it is said of other countries, calcareous soils are not suited for growing that root; in this, as in many other cases, we must determine the fact by our own experience. Here, on limestone land, the beet may suffer from drought, but all crops grown upon it are exposed to the same effects. In France, the products on different soils vary much, and are greatly influenced by better or worse management, the difference rating from fifty to two hundred.

Preparation of the Ground.—This will vary according to the nature of the soil, and here, as in all other departments of the farming business, much of the success depends on the skill and judgment of the farmer. In many cases three ploughings will be necessary, and one of these ploughings should be before winter, that the turned up soil may be mellowed by the frost; the last ploughing has to be in the spring immediately before planting the seed; two ploughings in this country will be found sufficient; in all cases it should be well harrowed, and rolling will be an improvement that amply repays the expense. Deep ploughing is generally useful, but the farmer has to consider the nature of the substrata. It would be improper to turn up much of the poor clay or gravel bottom, and where the substrata is an open sand, deep ploughing is not required. Manure in which the process of fermentation has not advanced far, will answer best for beets, nevertheless all kinds are useful; but the half rotten best divides the soil and suffers the roots freely to expand. In the state of Delaware, marl has been found an excellent manure for beets, and marl is found in many places in the low light soils on the Atlantic coast south of Sandy Hook. Some farmers in France allow the beet leaves that are cut off at harvest-time to remain on the land, and consider them a tolerably good manure, but this practice is not so good as having them carted into the barn yard to be eaten and trodden on by the cattle. It will be found that straw of any kind when properly laid into the furrows and covered with the mould, will give good crops; and this open species of manure is suited to clay soils and the beet root. The roller is especially necessary on clay soils; by it clods are well broken, which favours the coming up of the plants, and facilitates the future hoeings and horse-hoe weeding.

Of Sowing.—There are four ways of sowing beets, first in beds as in a nursery; second, broad cast as in sowing wheat; third, sowing or dropping by the hand in drills; and fourth, drilling by a machine.

By the first of these methods the whole of the seed is sown on a small portion of land compared with what it is intended to occupy; these plants will be fit to pull up and plant out where they are finally to remain, in a month or six weeks from the time of sowing; this planting is performed by means of a dibble with which holes are made in the ground, always a little deeper than the length of the plant that is to be put into them, and with this dibble the earth must be carefully pressed close to the root.—This method is attended with several inconveniences; it requires much manual labour, the roots are exposed to injury during the process of transplanting, and if the root is bent in the planting the beet will form badly, and in place of having the shape of a cone will be deformed and unthrifty with numerous roots filled with earth, which will be detrimental to the crop, whether used for feeding cattle or employed to make sugar. This mode of sowing should be thought of only where seed is scarce, the quantity to be sown not great, and labour easily procured.

Broad cast. This manner is the simplest, but requires a large quantity of seed, and will be expensive where that is dear, and seed in the European market, has on some occasions been five times dearer than on others. In this practice it will be found that six pounds of seed will be required, where two and a half or three would have been enough when planted in drills by the hand. The whole of the soil in the broad cast sowing is occupied, but it is difficult and expensive to hoe the crop, and keep it free of weeds, and the produce is never as great as by the following method.

Rows or drills. The little furrows into which the seeds are to be dropped are made by a harrow, having the teeth at the distance one from another that the rows of beets are intended to be from each other and the seed is dropped two or three into the drills at the distance of twelve to eighteen inches apart from each other. This work can be performed by young people; in France it is most frequently done by women, as more dependence can be placed in them than in boys. After the planting is finished, the seeds are covered by having a light harrow with plenty of teeth in it drawn over the ground. In this way there is a great saving of seed and the plants are regularly spaced. Four women will plant an acre in a day. By using a drill drawn by a horse, the labour is very much abridged and the work will be expedited. This machine is very important to those who plant large fields; in the large sugar-making districts it is used with great success, it is of various forms and merits, the plans have not yet been brought to this country. Some French farmers place the rows twenty-four inches apart, perhaps thirty will be found a more convenient distance for the horse-hoe, cultivator, or harrow. In fixing the distance that is to be between the rows, reference should be had to the kind of horse-hoe that is to be used in keeping the crops free from weeds. The distance in the row may be from twelve to eighteen inches. When the plants are far from each other the roots will grow to a large size, and the contrary will result from planting them close. By careful observation farmers have to learn the distance that will produce the largest quantity, and best quality of roots on their respective soils. The seed should be planted at the depth of from one to two inches. Experience has proved, that at a greater depth especially on heavy soils, it is not sufficiently exposed to the action of the air, sun, and moisture; without which it will not germinate well.

To be Continued.

From the Library of Useful Knowledge.

A List of the Medicines used in the Treatment of the Diseases of Cattle.

(Continued.)

Antimony.—There are but three preparations of it that can be useful to the practitioner on cattle. The first is

Emetic Tartar, which, in doses from half a drachm to a drachm, and combined with nitre and digitalis, has great efficacy in lowering the circulation of the blood in inflammation of the lungs and every catarrhal affection, and particularly in that species of pleurisy to which cattle are so subject. Emetic tartar, rubbed down with lard, constitutes a powerful and very useful stimulant when applied to the skin.

Antimonial Powder.—The powder of oxide of antimony with phosphate of lime. It is frequently sold in the shops under the name of James's Powder, and possesses all the properties of that more expensive drug. It is a useful febrifuge in cases where it may not be advisable to nauseate the beast to too great a degree.

Chloride (Butyr) of Antimony.—Where it is wished that a caustic shall act only superficially, this is the most useful one that can be employed. It has a strong affinity for water, and therefore readily combines with the fluids belonging to the part to which it is applied, and so becomes diluted and comparatively powerless, and in-

capable of producing any deep and corroding mischief. It has also the advantage, that, by the change of colour which it produces, it accurately marks the extent of its action, and therefore forms an unerring guide to the surgeon. For warts, foul in the foot, cankered foot, and for some indolent and unhealthy wounds, it is a valuable caustic and stimulant.

ANTISPASMODICS.—Opium, for its general power, and particularly for its efficacy in locked jaw, stands unrivalled. The spirits of turpentine and nitrous ether are useful in cases of colic.

ASTRINGENTS.—These are few in number, but they are powerful: alum, catechu, opium (an astringent because it is an anodyne) and blue vitriol comprise the list: the first used both externally and internally; the two next internally; and the last internally, but chiefly powerful as arresting nasal discharge.

BLISTERS.—The thickness of the skin of cattle renders it somewhat difficult to produce any great degree of vesication. The part should be previously fomented with hot-water, then thoroughly dried, and the blistering application well rubbed in. With these precautions the common blister ointment will act very fairly; the turpentine tincture of cantharides still better; while an ointment composed by triturating one drachm of emetic tartar with six of lard will produce more powerful and deeper irritation, but not so much actual blistering. Sometimes boiling water, and in a few cases, and especially in bony enlargements about the legs attended by much lameness, the hot iron will be resorted to.

CALAMINE.—See ZINC.

CALOMBO.—A very useful tonic, and especially in those cases of debility which accompany or follow dysentery. It should be given in doses of from one to three drachms, combined with ginger.

CALOMEL.—See MERCURY.

CAMPHOR.—Used externally alone in cattle-practice. It is a component part in the liniments for palsy and garget.

CANTHARIDES—the principal ingredient in all blistering ointments, and to which they owe their power. Corrosive sublimate, sulphuric acid, and euphorbium, may increase the torture of the animal, but they will generally blemish, and often lay the foundation for deep and corroding ulcers. The best blister ointment for cattle is composed of one part of cantharides (Spanish flies) finely powdered, three of lard, and one of yellow resin; the lard and the resin should be melted together, and the flies added when the ingredients begin to cool.

CARRAWAYS.—The powder of these seeds may be used as an occasional change for ginger; yet it is not so stomachic as the ginger, and is decidedly inferior to it, except in cases of flatulent colic. It may be given in doses, from half an ounce to two ounces.

CASTOR OIL.—An effectual and safe purgative for cattle in doses from twelve ounces to a pint, and that will be properly employed when Epsom salt or other aperient drugs have not produced their desired effect. It is usually made into a kind of emulsion with the yolk of an egg. It is however to be doubted whether it is much superior to a less expensive purgative, the linseed-oil.

CATECHU is an extract from the wood of one of the acacia trees. It is much less expensive than the Gum Kino, and it is, when unadulterated, more effectual than that gum in subduing the diarrhœa of calves or adult cattle.

CAUSTICS.—In the treatment of foul in foot, these are indispensable, and the chloride (butyr) of antimony has no rival in the certainty with which it destroys the fungus or otherwise unhealthy surface to which it is applied, and the equal certainty of its destructive power being confined to the surface. For warts, angle-berries, &c., externally situated, the nitrate of silver in substance, or in the form of a strong solution, will be most effectual; for canker in the mouth, barbs, and paps, a strong solution of alum will be as useful as any thing; and in order to stimulate indolent and unhealthy ulcers, nothing can compare with the diluted nitric acid.

CHALK.—See LIME.

CHAMOMILE.—If it were necessary to add another tonic to the gentian and calombo it would be the chamomile, and on the principle of not being so powerful as either of the others, and therefore used in somewhat doubtful cases, when, if the state of fever has not quite passed over, a stronger stimulant might have been prejudicial.

CHARGES.—These are thick adhesive plasters spread over parts that have been strained or weakened, or that are affected with rheumatism, and which, being applied warm, mingle so with the hair, that they cannot be separated for a long time afterwards. They give a permanent support to the part, and likewise exert a gentle but constant stimulating power. Old cows, weakened and rendered almost useless by a rheumatic affection of the loins, which is degenerating into palsy, often derive much benefit from the application of a charge. It is also useful when the joints are the seat of rheumatic lameness.

CLYSTERS.——The importance of the administration of injections has not yet been sufficienty acknowledged in cattle practice. A recurrence to the account which has been given of the lower or larger intestines of cattle, and which, although long, are not capacious compared with those of the horse, and whose surface is not irregular and cellated as in that animal, but perfectly smooth, so that a fluid will readily pass along them and to their full extent, will show the propriety of having frequent recourse to this mode of administering medicine. A soothing emollient injection may be brought into contact with the inflamed and irritable surface of these intestines; or, on the other hand, that surface may be extensively and beneficially stimulated by the direct application of purgative medicine. The former is a most important consideration in diarrhœa and dysentery; and the latter is not of less moment when the comparative insensibility of the three first stomachs of cattle is regarded. Much may be done by means of the bladder and pipe, but the newly-invented stomach and enema-pump of Read enables the practitioner to derive from injections all the advantages that can be connected with their administration.

(To be Continued.)

From the Cultivator.

DICTIONARY OF TERMS USED IN AGRICULTURE AND ITS KINDRED SCIENCES.

Abrading.—This is a term applied by some agricultural writers to the crumbling down of earth from the effects of frost. This process is seen most on fall ploughed lands, and is an efficient agent in ameliorating and rendering fit for cultivation heavy or clay soils.

Abrasion.—The wearing away, by running water, of earths, rocks, &c. the banks, or the bottom of streams, and the result of which is the deposite of alluvium.

Absorption.—The process by which plants and animals are nourished is called absorption. In most plants this office is performed by the roots, and it is through the vessels called spongioles, with which the roots are terminated, that absorption takes place. In aquatic plants, the water which affords nourishment is absorbed with facility from every part of their surface.—By causing the roots to imbibe colored liquid, the general course of the sap may be traced with considerable accuracy.

Acids.—Bodies that have usually a sour taste, and corrosive qualities. Some acids appear only in a fluid state, gaseous as carbonic acid, or liquid as sulphuric acid; others are chrystalized as the boraic, benzoic, &c. Of the acids, the only one that has much influence on vegetation is the carbonic.

Acclimating.—Plants are endowed with a power of gradually accommodating themselves to the temperature or climate in which they are placed, unless the change is at once so great as to suspend their vital functions altogether. This process is called acclimating. Plants will bear removal better from a warm climate to one of lower temperature, than from a cold to a warm one. As instances in plants, we may mention the potatoe, the bean, the melon, and among fruits the peach and apricot. The cucumber affords an instance of the effect of acclimation. It is grown in the open air at Cairo and at Petersburg; at Carracas and at Quebec.

Aeration.—An important change effected on the sap of plants, by the action of light. It consists in the decomposition of carbonic acid gas, which is either brought to the leaves of plants by the sap, or absorbed directly from the atmosphere. The substance of all plants is mostly carbon, and as carbon in its common state, however minutely divided, is never taken up by the sap of plants, this most essential ingredient is obtained in the form of the carbonic gas, from which the oxygen is separated by the leaves under the action of light, leaving the carbon ready for assimilation, or conversion into vegetable fibre. That this process is performed by the green substance of the leaves or stem, is evident from the fact that if a leaf is bruised or its vitality destroyed, its substance is no longer capable of decomposing carbonic gas in the light, or absorbing oxygen in the dark. The necessity of this aeration of sap for the purpose of ripening fruit, or maturing vegetation, may be seen in some fruit trees, the plum for instance, in which an excessive quantity of fruit causes a premature fall of the leaves, after which, owing to this loss of the organs of aeration, the fruit never ripens, but remains immature and worthless. The necessity of the leaves for aeration, or perfecting the juices of plants, shows the absurdity of plucking or injuring the leaves of any plant before it is ripe; topping corn, &c. under the idea of hastening maturity, or increasing the product. Attempts to improve on nature must be failures.

After-grass.—The grass grown on meadows after they are mown. The usual practice among farmers is to feed this off by cattle or sheep, and in some case so closely as to nearly destroy the roots of the grass. Unless the turf is close, and the meadow rich, it is better to not feed at all, or very lightly. For cropping after-grass, sheep are better than cattle, since, though their bite may be closer, they do not injure the roots with their feet, like the former. If mown a second time for rowen, it is called—

After-Math.—On rich meadows, or where manure can be had in abundance, for top dressing, a second mowing may be justifiable, and the grass so cut, if well cured, is much relished and eaten with avidity by ewes, calves, and other animals that are apt to become poor under ordinary management. The practice of the second mowing, however, like after feeding, is not to be recommended on the whole; experience proving that the injury grass roots always receive from mowing, is increased by the second cutting. Necessity alone can render after feeding or mowing justifiable or proper.

Agriculture.—In the most extended use of this term, it is made to embrace all the operations made use of to obtain food for man, whether from the field, the orchard, or the garden. In its proper and limited sense, it means the cultivation of the soil, which is the great source of wealth. The first want of man was food; the place to obtain it was the earth; hence the origin of agriculture; and in proportion to his wants, and the ease or the difficulty with which they can be supplied, is his progress in agriculture. Where the wants of man are supplied by the spontaneous productions of the earth, as in parts of Africa, or in the South Sea Islands; or where the inhabitants expect no food from the earth, as among the Esquimaux, or Somoiedes, there agriculture is unknown. It is only where exertion is necessary to procure food from the earth, that wants abound; that wealth is increased; and that agriculture becomes a science, and assumes its proper place as the basis and precursor of civilization, society and order. All history proves that such is the fact. The creation of wealth belongs to agriculture. Food must be had, and the value of every other article depends directly or remotely on the amount of food it will procure. The skill of the mechanic may improve; the enterprise of the merchant may exchange; but the origin belongs to the earth, and the cost and the profit is alike determined by the result of agriculture.

Science has within a few years done much in aid of agriculture; not that many positive discoveries have in the first place been made by the sciences, of which the agriculturist has availed himself; but the cause of certain results before known to the farmer, have been revealed by chemical or other researches, and thus the means of more certainty and in many more cases of producing the same results has been obtained. On this is based the improved system of agriculture. Where the earths are not in due proportion, it is impossible to make or keep the soil in a productive state. The nature of the earths is now inquired into, and their balance maintained by a rotation of crops, or the application of such matters as shall prevent exhaustion, or restore fertility to such as have been improperly treated. The capabilities of the earth in affording food, when properly tilled, are but imperfectly understood. Now and then instances occur in which either by skill or accident these powers are developed to the surprise of all; but what is done in one case may be done in others; and when agriculture is what it should be, when the tillage of the soil, and the application of proper manures shall be better understood, the results that now astonish will become common, and while the labor shall be diminished the product will be vastly increased.

(To be Continued.)

CULTURE OF INDIAN CORN.—*Mr. Jesse Buel*—As I have been a constant reader of the Cultivator, I often find the inquiry from your different correspondents, respecting the best method of raising a crop of corn. I therefore send you a statement of the soil, management and profit

of one acre planted by me with corn the present season. The soil, two-thirds of it, was a warm gravel; the other third was low, wet, and covered with rushes and wild grass, with a very tough sod; but I was careful to put two good under drains through it, which left it a rich black mould.—About the first of May I drew twenty-two loads of unfermented manure, each load containing thirty-five bushels, and spread it evenly over the acre. I then ploughed before the manure had time to dry; then dragged lengthways of the furrows; planted 9th of May, with Dutton corn, the hills three feet apart each way, making 4840 hills, with six kernels in a hill. It was attacked by the grub as soon as it made its appearance above the ground, at which time I spread twelve bushels of unleached ashes upon it, which checked them a little, but they succeeded in destroying 70 hills, leaving only 4770. These were hoed and thinned to four stalks in each hill, June 6th; then I sowed two bushels of plaster upon the hills, and hoed again July 2d; put no more earth to the hills than was taken away; went through with the cultivator both ways, four times—June 1st and 6th, July 1st and 12th. On the 14th September, I cut up and shocked the corn, and on the 28th finished husking and housing it.

Upon one square rod, of twenty hills, and one-fourth of a hill, of the best of the low ground, grew seventy pounds of ears, equal to one hundred and forty-eight bushels per acre. The whole product was one hundred and twenty bushels.

COST OF CULTIVATION.

One day ploughing,	$2 00
Harrowing half a day,	1 00
22 loads of manure,	11 00
Planting, 2 days,	1 50
Seed corn,	50
Hoe and cultivator, two days,	2 00
Hoeing, four days,	3 00
12 bushels ashes and 2 bushels plaster,	1 70
Spreading ashes and plaster,	1 00
Cutting and shocking,	1 50
Husking and housing, seven days,	5 25
Carting stalks,	75
Threshing, three days,	2 30
Interest on land,	3 50
Total cost,	$37 00

PRODUCT.

115 bushels of first rate corn,
Five bushels of second rate,
Stalks, four loads.

WILLIAM INGELL.

Volney, Oswego co. N. Y. Dec. 9, 1839.

I hereby certify, that I am personally acquainted with the above named William Ingell, and believe him to be a person of truth and veracity, and that his statements may be depended on.

R. D. HUBBARD, *Justice of the Peace.*

NEW SPECIES OF PLANTS FOR THE OLD SOUTHERN STATES.

To the Editor of the Southern Agriculturist.

Dear Sir,—I respectfully invite your attention towards my recent communication to Mr. Ruffin, which will probably appear in the Farmers' Register, under the head *of* "new species and new varieties of the actual staples *of* the *old* Southern States." You have perceived that all my writings are principally directed to the Agriculturists of the *old* Southern States, because I conceive that the agricultural improvement of that section of the United States is more necessary to themselves and more important to the nation than any other equal surface of the Union. The South-western States possess more rich virgin soils than they can exhaust in many years, by the cultivation of the ancient great staple of cotton, which must always continue to be the most profitable article of culture in the most fertile soils. The Western States have still a boundless extent of the richest soils, better adapted to the profitable production of their ancient great staples for provisions, than for the culture of the silk mulberry, or of any other new staples of agriculture. The old Eastern States are warring against nature in their attempts to force the culture of the Manilla mulberry in their frozen climates, instead of continuing their more natural pursuits in the fisheries, commerce and manufactures. But the old Southern States, possessing genial climates with improverished soils, are both invited and compelled to cultivate new staples; or, at least new varieties, peculiarly adapted to flourish in every peculiar variety of both their climates and their soils. Hence the cultivation of the silk mulberry *on their poorest soils* is highly desirable in many points of view, and merits the special encouragement of all the agricultural statesmen of the old Southern States. But admitting it to be established and extended to the greatest possible degree, the *silk mulberry cannot ever profitably occupy* more than *one per cent.* of the surface of their *poorest soils*. Taking the lowest estimate of the National Silk Convention, or 51 lbs. of raw silk per acre, we see that 100,000 acres would yield 5,100,000 lbs. of raw silk per year, which would much more than supply the whole consumption of the United States, and yet would not employ or occupy more than — per cent. of the surface of South-Carolina alone. Believing myself, however, that at 20 lbs. of raw silk per acre, the Manilla mulberry can be profitably grown on the *poorest* soils of the old Southern States, I would allow 250,000 acres to be dedicated to its cultivation—and yet reiterate my assertion that this surface would not embrace the *hundredth* part of the *present unproductive* soils of the *old* Southern States. But as it is desirable to encourage the production of one staple of China, which will profitably employ only one per cent. of their hitherto unproductive soils, is it not still more desirable to encouarge the production of another staple of China, which will as profitably employ at least five per cent. more of their poorest soils. I allude of course to the raising of tea, and respectfully invite your re-publication of the article on that subject, by Dr. Dekay, at pages 105–6–7 of the New-York Farmer, for 1828.—By his personal observations in Brazil, we arrive at the important general results, that the only tedious operations from the planting of the slips to the selling of the tea are the picking and assorting the successive crops of the *green* leaves, which are the light labor of the feeble, in sex, age, or health; that the plants of two feet high, four feet apart, will yield an annual average of 3 lbs. of leaves, or 8000 lbs. per acre; and that one man may cure, and prepare for market, the entire produce of sixteen acres! and that hence the production of *tea*, at only 10 cents per pound, will afford more profit than any actual staple of the old Southern States, which can be raised on equally sterile soils. * * * * * * *

But you know that *my* greatest hopes for the greatest prosperity of the *old* Southern States, are founded on their future production of *superior substitutes for flax and hemp* on the *greatest portions* of their poorest soils. "My unshaken opinions of the immense importance of the *indigenous* plants, whose *living leaves* yield *textile fibres*," my strengthened convictions of the incalculable benefits of propagating *fibrous leave plants* on the poorest soils of all the *old* Southern States, which were expressed in a condensed form to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives of the United States' Congress, ou the 3d February, 1838, have been re-published in your June and July numbers of the same year, at pages 305–316, and pages 361–369, inclusive.

Now, that a general interest for the promotion of Agriculture, has been first awakened in the *old* Southern states, I respectfully invite their most serious deliberations in the contents of those pages in reference to the production of *foliacious fibres* on their poorest soils. If, instead of the isolated exertions of a distant individual, only one thousandth portion of the persons and purses devoted to the propagation of the Manilla mulberry had been diverted to the propagation of the *Sisal* hemp, it would no longer need the humble aid of my feeble pen. If the cause had received the simple aid of a *general exhibition of foliaceous fibres alone*, I am persuaded that the *bare inspection of the samples* of superior substitutes for flax and hemp, would have excited many Southern planters at least to make a trial of the *fibrous leaved* plants, whose *living green* leaves yield these *superior textile fibres* at all seasons of the year! At all events, the *trial* of the fibrous leaved plants *may be excited* by a *general premium*, which should *combine* the stimuli of *honor* and *profit*, to encourage the production of *all desirable staples* in the *poorest soils* of the old Southern States. Say for example—the Legislature of each State to offer, 1st. A premium of ten thousand dollars to the only citizen of that State, who, by the cultivation of a new staple of agriculture on the poorest soil, shall *first* demonstrate that it is more profitable than the cultivation of cotton on the medium soils. 2. A premium of one thousand dollars to the first citizen in each county (of the State) who shall make the same satisfactory demonstration on one acre of *its* poorest soils. The Agricultural Society of the State to determine the person best entitled to the bounty for the State; and the Agricultural Society of the county to decide which person is best entitled to the bounty for the county!

With my views, however, of the immensely greater importance of the *exotic fibrous leaved plants* for *the poorest soils* of all the *old* Southern States, and with the facts that they already abound in *indigenous* species of Yucca and Agave, whose *living* leaves may also yield superior substitutes for flax and hemp, I could most earnestly unite in beseeching the Southern Legislatures to offer *special premiums* for the *special production* of these *superior textile fibres* from the *living leaves* of both the *indigenous* and of the *exotic species*, on their *poorest soils!* Say, ten thousand dollars premium to the first person, who, with the least labor and expense shall produce the greatest quantity of any *superior substitute* for *either flax* or *hemp*, from any *indigenous* species of *fibrous leaved plants* on one acre of the poorest soils, and who shall thus satisfactorily demonstrate to the Agricultural Society of the State that the general cultivation of this new staple on the *poorest soils* will be more desirable than the exclusive cultixation of the old staples, in the *richest soils*. For an acre of the *exotic* species, with the same conditions, the *honor* of a gold medal, or a laudatory diploma, might be superadded to the *reward* of ten thousand dollars. Although the premium might not be ever gained, yet *the proffers alone would excite many trials on the poorest soils*, which would promote the agricultural prosperity of the old Southern States. The indigenous species of Yucca filamentosa and of Yucca gloriosa, would be fairly tried as superior substitutes for common flax. The indigenous species of Agave verginica would be fairly tried as a superior substitute for common hemp. The exotic species of Phormium Tenax and of Bromelia Pita would also be fairly introduced as still more productive substitutes for common flax; and the exotic species of Agave Sisalana, and of Musa Abaca would be furthermore introduced as still more productive substitutes for common hemp. And if only one species of fibrous leaved plants, either *indigenous* or *exotic—if only one species*, should thus become spread over *only one third* of the poorest soils of the oldSouthern states, I repeat my inspired prophecy, that this new staple will become much more important to them than all their old staples combined, not merely for the amount, value, and profit of the product itself, but also on account of the character of the land, of the labor, and of the population it will most naturally employ.

Very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

HENRY PERRINE.

Indian Key, Tropical Florida, 22d Oct. 1839.

THE MAGAZINE OF HORTICULTURE,

Edited by C. M. Hovey, Boston—published monthly—40 pages—$3 per year. The sixth volume of this valuable Magazine commenced January 1st, 1840. We have read it from its commencement, and cannot let this opportunity pass, without recommending the work to all our friends who wish to enjoy the elevating pleasures of horticulture. It is after the plan of the English Magazines, and is the only work of the kind in the United States. It numbers among its contributors more than fifty of the most eminent horticulturists, Botanists, Nurserymen, &c., in the country. It should be in the hands of every one engaged in such pursuits, who wishes to understand his business, and keep pace with the improvements and discoveries of the age.

We extract the following article from the September number of the Magazine:

On the cultivation of the Cauliflower, as practised on the farm of C. J. Wolbert, Esq., at Frankford, near Philadelphia. By. MR GREGORY LEE.

Having met with unprecedented success in bringing the cauliflower to the highest state of perfection, by the same simple process of cultivation as the cabbage, and, with the hope of stimulating others to "go and do likewise," I am induced to lay before you an extract from my garden diary:

"Purchased the seed of Messrs. Landreth & Co.; sowed it, broadcast, Sept. 18th, 1838, in a bed of common garden mould.

"October 26th, removed the plants into a cold frame of the same kind of mould

"April 10th, 1839, transplanted them into the open garden.

"May 29th, cut for the use of the family."

These noble plants stood in the open garden, undaunt-

ed, and, with their neighbors, the cabbage, patiently endured the "pitiless pelting of the storm."

My success is fully demonstrated by the following statement of the circumference of six *heads* of the flowers, wholly divested of their leaves:

No. 1	-	-	3 feet	1	inch	-	- 8lbs.
No. 2	-	-	2 "	7½	"	-	-
No. 3	-	-	2 "	6¾	"	-	-
No. 4	-	-	2 "	6	"	-	-
No. 5	-	-	2 "	5¼	"	-	-
No. 6	-	-	2 "	5½	"	-	-

The circumference of the largest flower, as it stood in the garden, and taken at the *extremity of its leaves*, was 13 feet 7½ inches.

I continued to cut abundance of fine flowers, from May 29th to the middle of July.

My object, in this instance, is to give publicity, especially as flowers of this immense *size can only be obtained from fall plants.* I am a subscriber of yours, and shall feel a pleasure in communicating and corresponding with you upon the subject of horticulture.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully yours,

GREGORY LEE.

Frankford, near Philadelphia, July 31st, 1839.

From the same for January.

HORTICULTURAL MEMORANDA FOR JANUARY.

Fruit Department.—There is but little to do in the fruit department this month. The grape vines should have been pruned ere this, and all preparations made for spring growth. In the open air every thing has probably been protected, and the severity of the cold will not allow of any thing being done in the garden. Where there is a hot-house, however, grape vines may now be started for an early crop, and strawberry plants in pots may be brought from a frame where they should have been wintered. Peach trees, and other kinds of fruit trees in pots, may be also brought into the hot-house for producing early fruit. As there is so little to do now, the industrious gardener should be preparing for spring, by making labels, sticks for tying up plants, trellises, &c., and all other work which would require to be done in the spring that can be performed now.

Flower Department—Camellias will now display their flowers in the greatest perfection. Keep the plants liberally supplied with water. The plants may be also syringed occasionally, though not very often, as it has a tendency to tarnish the light-colored and more delicate petaled flowers. The seeds should be sown this month in pans or pots, of light sandy soil. Attend to the impregnation of the flowers, if seeds are wanted for producing new varieties.

Azaleas should have a little more water administered this month, but not too abundantly until they begin to bloom.

Roses should be pruned and top-dressed, and be placed on shelves as near the glass as convenient.

Lechenaultias will bloom more profusely now, and should receive more water.

Oxalises, of several sorts, will now be coming into flower; give them plenty of water.

Ixias, Sparaxis, &c., will also begin to flower the latter part of the month. Give them a situation near the glass.

Geraniums will need to be occasionally looked over, as the aphis trouble them at this season. If any appear, fumigate the house with tobacco.

Hyacinths, in pots, which were planted in November, will now open their flower buds, if they have been treated properly. Give them a good supply of water when in flower.

Dahlias, for very early flowering, may be started now. Put the roots into pots, and give them a warm situation to forward them.

Verbenas will begin to bloom the latter part of the month. Those that require it should then be repotted.

Cactuses will still require but little water. If, however, any plants should show the buds very prominently, they may be watered, to force them into bloom, if it is desired.

Tree Paeonies may be brought in for a succession of flowers.

Amaryllises should be potted now, particularly those which show buds.

Ericas coming into flower should receive due supplies of water, and be placed in the coolest and most airy part of the house.

Annual flower seeds, for blooming early, may be planted this month in hot beds.

Vegetable Department.—Hot-beds for early cucumbers, radishes, &c. should be made up this month. One small frame, of one light, will be sufficient to raise cucumber plants for several large frames. They should be potted into No. 2 pots when in the seed leaf, three in each pot. They may remain thus until the large frames are made up for hilling out.

Radishes, Lettuces, Peppergrass, &c. may be planted now in hot beds.

Rhubarb may be brought forward in the green-house by having the roots planted in large pots.

From the Maine Farmer.

Friend Holmes—In looking over my papers and books the other evening, I came across the following extracts, which, if deemed sufficiently interesting and useful for publication, thou mayst publish them in thy paper.

J. SNOW.

Washington, Maine, Dec. 1839.

"*A method of obtaining a greater number of one sex, at the option of the Proprietor, in the breeding of Live Stock.*"

"In the Annales de l' Agriculture Francaise, Vols. 37 and 38, some very interesting experiments are recorded, which have lately been made in France, on the breeding of live Stock. M. Charles Girou de Buzareingues proposed at a meeting of the Agricultural Society of Severac, on the 3d of July, 1826, to divide a flock of sheep into two equal parts, so that a greater number of males or females, at the choice of the proprietor, should be produced from each of them. Two of the members of the Society offered their flocks to become the subjects of his experiments, and the results have now been communicated, which are now in accordance with the author's expectations.

"The first experiment was conducted in the following manner: He recommended very young rams to be put to the flock of ewes, from which the proprietor wished the greatest number of females in their offspring: and also, that, during the season when the rams were with the ewes, they should have more abundant pasture than the other; while, to the flock from which the proprietor wished to obtain male lambs chiefly, he recommended him to put strong and vigorous rams four or five years old. The following tabular view contains the result of this experiment:

Flock for Female Lambs.

Age of mothers.	Sex of Lambs.	
	Males.	*Females.*
Two years,	14	26
Three years,	16	29
Four years,	5	21
Total,	35	76
Five years and older,	18	8
Total,	53	84

N.B. There were three twin births in this flock. Two rams served it, one fifteen months, the other nearly two years old.

Flock for Male Lambs.

Age of mothers.	Sex of Lambs.	
	Males.	*Females.*
Two years,	7	3
Three years,	15	14
Four years,	33	14
Total,	55	31
Five years and older,	25	24
Total,	80	55

N. B. There were no twin births in this flock. Two strong rams, one four, the other five years old, served it.

"The general law, as far as we are able to detect it, seems to be, that, when animals are in good condition, plentifully supplied with food, and kept from breeding as fast as they might do, they are most likely to produce females. Or, in other words, when a race of animals is in circumstances favorable for its increase, nature produces the greatest number of that sex, which, in animals that do not pair, is most efficient for increasing the numbers of the race; but, if they are in a bad climate or stinted pasture, or if they have already given birth to a numerous offspring, then nature, setting limits to the increase of the race, produces more males than females. Yet, perhaps, it may be premature to attempt to deduce any law from experiments which have not yet been sufficiently extended. M. Girou is disposed to ascribe much of the effect to the age of the ram, independent of the condition of the ewe."

DOUBLE MILK PANS

For the use of Large or Small Dairies.

For the information of those of your readers, who have not seen or heard of this invention, I beg leave to offer, for insertion in your valuable pages, a particular account of their structure, together with the mode of using them, and remarks on their introduction to general use. One of these plans has been made in this country, and is now in use; the result of the experiment might form the subject of a future communication to the Cabinet. Your Subscriber, J. P.

Sept. 29, 1839. *Cabinet.*

These pans, made of zinc, prepared after a peculiar process, possess many and great advantages over those in general use, and are recommended as far superior to any ever adopted for the purpose of raising the cream and facilitating the labors of the dairy.

1. They are peculiarly strong in their construction; not liable to get out of order; and most convenient in their form, and take but little room in the milk house.

2. They communicate no unpleasant flavor to the milk; are most easily kept clean by means of hot water, a brush and soap; requiring not a tenth part of the labor necessary to keep others sweet, and are suitable for every season and situation.

3. They are made of different sizes to suit large or small dairies, the largest being sufficiently capacious to contain the milk of half a dozen cows, it having been found advantageous, both to the quantity and quality of the butter, to mix together the milk of different cows at the time of setting it to cream.

4. At the time of skimming, the labor of collecting the cream from these pans not being a twentieth part of that necessary where pans of any other construction are used, while all the cream and none of the milk is obtained, with the greatest precision and without trouble.

5, The business of churning is much facilitated, the butter coming very quickly; and this takes place in a regular way, uninfluenced by seasons or circumstances.

6. The butter is uniform in quality, and of a marrowy consistence; never hard and flinty in winter, and in summer it only requires the usual care to preserve it firm and cool; while it is remarkable in the property of keeping sweet for any reasonable length of time, and being of a superior color to that made from the same cream in the usual way. A calculation has been made, that a pound of butter can be made per week from each cow more by this process, than any other.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PANS, AND MODE OF USING THEM.—Each pan is placed on a strong wooden frame of the most convenient height; is dish-shaped, either square or oblong; the largest being about five feet six inches long by thirty inches wide: smaller pans can be made to order. They are double, the pan for the milk being firmly jointed to another of the same shape, but somewhat larger, which forms a casing around it; the space between them being from two to three inches deep, is for the purpose of containing hot water, thus forming a bath around the milk. In the centre of the upper milk pan, which dips regularly towards the middle, is a fine strainer; and to this attached a short pipe, which descends through the bottom of the casing pan, of which however, it is independent; it is furnished with a brass tap, its purpose being to let off the milk contained in the upper pan, at the end of the process. The casing, or bottom pan, is furnished with two pipes; one perforates a corner of the upper or milk pan, and through this, boiling water is poured by measures of a funnel at the proper time, so as to completely fill the space between the pans; thus, as had been said, forming a hot bath around the milk. By the other pipe, furnished also with a tap, the water is let off at the proper season. Thus the pans, although firmly jointed together, are independent of each other, the union, however, strengthening each in a remarkable manner.

At the time of milking, the taps are closed, and the upper pan is to be filled with the milk as it comes from the cows; after standing twelve hours, the tap is partially unclosed, and a small portion of the milk is drawn away; this, on examination, will be found to contain the impurities of the milk which have subsided; (the peculiar formation of the pan having induced the sediment to form exactly on the strainer,) and this economy is of much consequence to the quality of the butter.—The casing or bottom pan, is then to be filled with boiling water.* by means of the pipe which perforates the upper pan, which is then to be closed; and the water is permitted to stand twelve hours, when it is to be drawn off by the tap below, opening first the pipe above, to give vent. After this, the milk is to be drawn off, by placing a vessel to receive it, and opening the tap; every particle of the cream having risen to the surface. Thus the milk will be found to drain away, leaving the cream in the pan, from whence it can be removed with the greatest ease and facility; very little practice in this part of the process will make perfect. As soon, however, as the cream is removed, the pan should be well washed with hot water and soap, which will neutralize any acidity there might be; and a careful rinsing after, fits it for an immediate re-fillment without removal or labor.

The cream might now be transferred to the churn, where it will soon become butter of the finest quality; or it might be "brought" by merely stirring with the hand in a pan, after the Devonshire method; either way, which is thought most convenient.

Remarks.—This is a new, and most interesting and convenient process of butter making, the advantages of which can scarcely be sufficiently appreciated, but which cannot be fully carried out without the use of double pans. Every housekeeper is fully aware of the advantage of scalding or 'cooking' the milk which is to be kept until the following day, and by the means above described, this process is conducted in the simplest manner, without labor or inconvenience, and with great precision, the mode being an improvement on that which is practised in Devonshire, which is, to take every pan of milk to a hot plate at the end of every twelve hours, where it must remain "a given time," to be ascertained by unwearied watchfulness, and then be taken back to its former place; after which, however, it is often found to have acquired a burnt or smoky flavor, from over-cooking, sufficient to spoil the quality of the butter; while milk that has been submitted to the heat of boiling water, will be found to have deposited every particle of cream on the surface, without acquiring any bad flavor; and this equally the case with the milk of those cows which, without this process, is found never to separate its cream; and to this circumstance is to be attributed, in a great measure, the extra quantity of butter which is obtained by this management. The cream remains a much longer time sweet, and acquires an aptitude to "butter," which is truly surprising, rendering unnecessary that incessant beating into foam for twenty-four hours, as every dairyman has wofully experienced, by which the butter is rendered hot and rancid, even before it is taken from the churn.

But perhaps, one of the greatest and most perceptible advantages of these pans is, the owner of the dairy is no longer at the mercy of careless and unprincipled servants, who in the hurry of skimming, are often known to sacrifice a great portion of the cream to the hog-tub, a loss which soon amounts to a large consideration; here, these servants have only to set the milk pans running, and they will skim themselves, requiring only a small portion of care to stop them when the milk has passed away: while another very great injury is prevented which arises from the opposite vice; that of over skimming, by which the butter is deteriorated by the stale milk which is thus taken and mixed with the cream, for if the strainer be of the proper size and fineness, the milk will all pass, and the cream will all remain.

To a nice observer, however, the means of drawing off the impurities of the milk at the bottom of the pan before adding the boiling water, will not be lightly considered; a close examination of this portion of the milk will convince any one, by smell as well as taste, that "nothing is so disgusting as animal puricity." The skim-milk from this process is sweet, and very superior for the making of cheese.—*Farmers' Cabinet.*

*The heat of the water which is first poured into the pan will be considerably reduced, by coming in contact with the cold pans; this therefore should be let off after standing some time, and be replaced by other, boiling hot.

THE SILK CULTURE.

For the American Farmer.

Cambridge, Dec. 28, 1839.

Dear Sir—Having within the last five or six weeks entertained, for the first time, a favourable idea of the Silk culture, from a diligent perusal of many works on the subject, both foreign and domestic, I have resolved on the commencement of it, the ensuing season, on a scale much larger than usual, for an experimental crop. I have purchased about 500,000 silk worm eggs, of a large species, called the "Drab," from the color of the worm; but a specimen of its "cocoon" shown me, is a sulphur color, and very large.

I possess, from "data" furnished by writers in general, trees for a plentiful supply of foliage for that number of worms. I have already nearly accomplished the fixtures, &c. for their comfortable accommodation, previously having houses sufficient. Now, the chief purpose of this communication is to call attention to an extract in the National Intelligencer of the 10th inst. from the "Flushing Silk Journal," which, though no doubt designed to encourage this branch of industry, is calculated to produce rather a contrary effect, inasmuch as it holds out the idea of the necessity of a much larger supply of foliage and other accommodations in proportion, than is consistent with all the data, for such calculations, furnished by the general authorities.

Without a literal quotation of the extract, the substance is, "that Mr. Gracie, of Long Island, has, from his great opulence, been forming *extensive plantations* of the mulberry for *two* years, for sale; and, has become so convinced of the immense profits of the silk culture, that he has refused to sell any of his trees; and keeps them to supply an *immense* cocoonery, which he is erecting, for the accommodation of 1½ to 2 millions of worms."

If this opulence and immensity of preparation be essential, as intimated, for this moderate quantity, but few can aspire to a large scale of Silk culture; and it will not then become a large concern, in the United States.

I acknowledge it has startled me in my design of half a million, as before named, for a first experiment—yet, having bought the eggs, and nearly finished my accommodations, I am resolved to *go through*, for one season at least, though, very probably, it is too large for the first.

If my experiment shall result favorably, I may make a report of it—but this will be of the *profits* upon the *cost* and *labor*, and independently of the *acre*, or *quantity* of *land*, upon which the trees may have grown; this, in my opinion, is, with us, and in our country generally, a very *secondary*—or rather, if I may coin a word—a very *nothingary* consideration; and I have been surprised that our "Silk Societies" should, by their premiums offered, induce the crowding of *more* trees on a small space, than can possibly flourish a second year. Some have had 37,000 on an acre, or nearly one to the square foot; and even Dr. McLean, in whose *silken* path I mean to tread, except in this particular, had 22,000 to the acre. Mine will stand 4 by 2 feet, or about 5,500 trees to the acre, and will produce more foliage, I believe, the second year, on a given space, than the *smothering* system possibly can. This latter is repugnant to all physiological science and experience; and if the silk culture is to be established in our country, it should be begun and extended upon correct principles, as far as they are known—such as will give it *permanency*, and not acquire for it an *ephemeral*, deceptive character—one that will bear the test of time, and not flatter us with illusive phantoms that vanish when approached.

Excuse more than I intended, and believe me,

Yours, respectfully,

Joseph E. Muse.

Silk Reel.—A silk reel, says the New England Farmer, of a simple and beautiful construction, has been made by Dr. Boane, of Greenfield, Mass., which at least answers the purpose well, and we know no higher praise that can be asked for it.—It can be made for six or eight dollars, and will not be encumbered with a patent right.

HOUSEWIFE'S DEPARTMENT.

Marriage.—The following very pretty sentiments on one of the most interesting of all subjects, we copy from the Little Genius:

"Marriage is to a woman at once the happiest and saddest event of her life. It is the promise of future bliss, raised on the death of all present enjoyment. She quits her home, her parents, her companions, her occupations, her amusements, every thing on which she has hitherto depended, for comfort, for affection, for pleasure. The parents by whose advice she has been guided, the sister to whom she has avowed to impart every embryo thought and feeling, the brother who has played with her—by turns, the counsellor and the counselled—all are to be forsaken at one fell stroke; and yet she flies with joy into the untrodden path before her. Buoyed up by the confidence of requited love, she bids a fond and grateful adieu to the life that is past, and returns with excited hopes and joyous anticipations of the happiness to come. Then woe to the man who can blight such a heart from its peaceful enjoyment and the watchful protection at home—who can, coward-like, break the illusions that have won her, and destroy the confidence which love had inspired—wo to such a man."

The Charm of Woman.

There were many defects in her character, but beauty and gentle manners in the great estimate of woman, go far towards supplying their want of energy and even their want of heart.

It is as a wife that these defects appear and grow upon the disappointed husband, like the frightful figures exhibited by a magic lantern, increasing in hideousness as they increase in magnitude and distinctness. It is when the doating lover begins to suspect that the silent calm he had hitherto mistaken for maiden shyness, is in reality the silence of the soul—the calm of imperturbable stagnation; when he discovers that he has devoted his first and best affections to a beautiful but marble statue; when he returns to his home, which ought to be "an ever sunny place," and finds nothing but the yawning vacancy of a cold and cheerless void; when he pours his fresh warm feelings, that burst in unstudied language from his burning lips, upon the stony surface of an insensible heart—and that heart a woman's!—it is then that he shrinks back repelled and blasted, as if the blooming charms he once adored, were exchanged for deformity and horror.

"Oh! it is by the secret fountain of never changing love—the well of inexhaustible refreshment in the desert—the rose that blooms forever beneath the sunshine of one beloved eye—the voice that rises in a continued strain of melody above all the discord of the world—the bird of beauty, whose faithful wing is never folded save in its own sheltered nest—the pure unsullied stream, offering sweetness and balm to every bosom it meets, but reserving the full tide of its gladness for one:—it is by such mystical symbols as these that we would describe the natural, the distinctive, the holy charm of woman;—not by her perfect form, her ruby lips, her sparkling eyes, or her silken tresses, whether they fall in raven masses over a marble brow, or glitter in the sunbeam like threads of waving gold.—*Sarah Stickney.*

Remedy for Burns.—Take soot from a chimney where wood is burned, rub it fine, and mix one part soot to three parts, or nearly so, of hogs' lard, fresh butter, or any kind of fresh grease, that is not salted, spread this on linen or muslin, or on any cotton cloth, for easier and more perfect adaptation. In very extensive burns or scalds, the cloth should be torn into strips before putting over the scald. Let the remedy be freely and fully applied, so as to perfectly cover all the burned part. No other application is required until the patient is well, except to apply fresh applications of the soot and lard, &c.—In steamboat explosions, or rail-road accidents, this remedy can in nearly all cases be at once applied, and if done, many valuable lives will be saved, and a vast amount of suffering alleviated.

LATEST NEWS.

The packet ship Garrick has arrived at New York, bringing London dates to the 13th ult., and Liverpool to the 14th. By the Burgundy, Havre dates of the 16th and Paris of 15th were also received.

It is said positively that the new loan of Mr. Jaudon, through the intervention of the Rothschilds, is definitely concluded. Sales of U. S. Bank shares had been made at £18 10s, and even at £19 for a few shares. All State securities were in better demand, and sales were making of them at improved rates.

The specie and billion in the Bank of England was increasing in amount. Yet fears are still entertained of the effect on the monetary system of England which may be produced in the spring, by the importation of Bread Stuffs. The weather in England has been very unfavorable, not only to the seed which has just been planted but to the preservation of the crop just boused; and though the average prices continue low, in consequence of the wretched quality of the English samples brought to market, an universal opinion prevails that prices for good American flour or wheat will soon rise very high.

The general tenor of the London advices received is, that the English money market was somewhat easier.

Liverpool, Dec. 14.—Cotton—Since our communication by the last packet of the 7th inst. the demand for cotton has continued moderate, and the better qualities being more freely offered, have further declined ¼d per lb, while in the low and middling qualities the reduction is barely ¼d per lb. Only a few thousand bales of the new crop have as yet arrived—but so much of it has been forced upon the market this week as to cause a material depression in qualities above fair.

The late favorable accounts of the coming crops in the United States seems to induce the consumers to buy only for the supply of their immediate wants, particularly as the state of the money market is still discouraging. The sales for the week ended last evening amounted to 19,760 bales—of which 160 were Upland at 6¼a7¼; 8760 Orleans 6a8¼; 3720 Alabamaand Mobile 6¼a7¼d; and 50 Sea Island at 18a24d per lb. The stock in this port is now estimated at 250,000 bales, of which about 217,000 is American Cotton.

Flour—Flour in bond has continued in demand, and sales of good parcels have been made at 31s 6d per bbl, but yesterday there was less inquiry, and 31s was the highest price to be obtained for the best lot—the duty is still 11s 3-4d per bbl.

Turpentine—Is dull; 250 bbls good new sold yesterday by auction at 12s 4 per cwt. while for a parcel of ordinary quality there was no bidders.

Tobocco—No change in the market.

December 13th—The Corn markets have remained drooping, and the duties may consequently be expected somewhat higher for the present, though a strong impression prevails that they will be lower in the spring. American flour is arriving in quantities, and was lately sold at 29s a 29s 6d in bond;

but from the expectations that the supplies will fall off during the winter, prices have got up again to 31s 6d, and even 32s has been paid.

HAVRE, Dec. 8—During the week the transactions in Cotton have not been large, and a disinclination is shown to purchase American. Upon all sorts of United States there is to be noted a further reduction of 3 to 4cts.

Dec. 14—Sales of 1670 bales Cotton, of which 1500 were Porto Rico at 125.

Dec. 13—Sales of 521 bales Louisiana Cotton at 91a 106,-50; 376 Georgia, at 90a101; 213 Florida at 96a100.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

Baltimore Market.—Flour.—At the time of making up our report of the market for last week the prevailing store rate was $5,37½. On Saturday some improvement was experienced, and sales were made on that day and on Monday at $5,50. On Wednesday further sale were made at $5,62½, and yesterday some parcels were taken at $5,62½ and $5,75. We are not advised of any sales this morning; holders generally ask $5,75 to-day. The car price is now $5,50, and for lots by wagons $5,62½ is paid. Sales of various parcels of City Mills for the West India and South American markets, have been made in the early part of the meek at $5,62½ fully and to-day a parcel of 500 bbls. was sold at the same price. Some holders, however, ask more; and some are disinclined to operate at present.

Grain.—In no season, for many years past, has the stock of stored Wheat, Corn, Rye and Oats been so small as the present.

Wheat.—The receipts by wagons and rail roads have been very small during the week, and have been taken at $1a1,08 for ordinary to prime reds. A cargo of some hundred bushels was afloat yesterday, in one of the craft brought up by the Ice boat, and was sold at $1a1,10 for ordinary to prime red. Some parcels of prime red in store are held at higher rates.

Corn.—The arrival of vessels in the harbor to take the article away has led to transactions in corn. Sales of some thousand bushels from store have been made within a day or two at 58c for yellow. In white we have heard of no transactions—this latter description is held at 60 cents.

Tobacco.—There is very little inquiry for Maryland Tobacco. Holders are still firm at the rates quoted last week, and the few transactions which have taken place were at prices corresponding with them. The stock in market in the hands of agents is quite small, and they are consequently unable to offer purchasers any inducement. We continue to quote inferior Maryland $3,50a4; common $4,50a5; good $5,50a7; fine and leafy $7,50a8,50. There were no inspections this week.

Cattle.—There were about 500 head of Beef Cattle offered in market this week, only part of which were sold, at prices ranging from $5,75 for inferior, to $7,75 per 100 lbs. for prime. The balance was withdrawn by the owners. In Live Hogs there has been nothing doing. Wagon Pork has declined a shade and we now quote a strictly prime article suitable for family use, at $6,50 to 6,75 per 100 lbs.

At New Orleans, on the 6th, the sales of Cotton were about 2000 bales. The accounts from Liverpool, to the 22d November, via New York, were received, and had a good effect on the finer qualities of Cotton, and fully fair could readily be sold at 9a9¼c. The feeling, however, was that prices would fall lower, when the extent of the crop became fully known on the other side of the Atlantic. The purchases were more generally to fill orders, there being but little taken for speculation. Money continued tight, and the Governor's message was looked for with interest, that his views on the present state of the banks might be fully understood.

At Mobile, on the 8th, there was a fair business done in Cotton, at prices ranging from 7¼ to 9¼ for middling up to strictly good fair. No alteration in Exchanges

At Winchester, (Va.) Friday, Flour was $4 7-8; Wheat 75a80c; Rye 45c; Corn 35; Oats 33; Pork $5½a5¾.

At Philadelphia, on the 16th, the Flour market was more animated, and prices advanced 12½c a bbl. Some small sales in the early part of the week on Broad street at 5,62½, but have since ranged at 5,75, at which price about 5000 barrels have been taken for export, chiefly to Liverpoool, and 500 barrels for South America. Stock very light and much reduced; holders are firm at 5,75. Sales of Rye flour at 3,62½, and Corn meal at 16,50, for Brandywin in hhds, and $16 for up country. There have been some sales of Pennsylvania Wheat for export at 1,15a1,16; and to millers of Delaware at 1,12½, and of Maryland at 1,15.—Sales of Southern Rye at 70c, of white Corn from store at 53c, and of yellow at 56c. Oats are scarce and command about 33c. We are unable to hear of any operations in Tobacco during the past week. The new crop has not yet made its appearance in any quantity; the stock of all kinds of leaf on hand is very light. At the Cattle market, on Thursday, there was an abundant supply of Cattle, and sales made at $6a8. Sheep were in demand, and sold at $1½a3½.

At New York, on the 17th, nothing done in flour; 300 bales Cotton have been sold at a reduction of ¼c. Domestic Exchange as follows: Philadelphia and Baltimore, 6a6½; Richmond, 7½a8; Charleston, 3a3½; Savannah, 4a5; Augusta, 7a7½; Macon, 8a10; Mobile, 6a6½; New Orleans, 3½a4; Mississippi, 10a15.

Richmond, January 16.—Our markets are rendered inanimate by the stoppage of shipping. The hope of an opening in navigation by the mild weather the first of this week, is entirely dissipated, and the freezing at present renders it improbable for two weeks at least. Tobacco quotations for two or three weeks past furnish the state of the market. Receipts small, and mostly confined to inferior qualities; demand fair. The present demand for Flour at the North for foreign shipment, would enhance the price here, and render the market active, could it be shipped. As it is, we hear of no sales. Stock on hand light. Millers quote Wheat at 105 for red by wagons. Corn from wagons, $3.